GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3685
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
INLAND TOURISM
SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inland tourism has been affected due to Eco-Sensitive Zones declared byMinistry of Environment and Forests in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction;

(c) whether any protests have been made against Eco-Sensitive Zones to safeguard Inland tourism; and

(d) if so, the details and the steps taken to boost Inland tourism in such areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) and (b): Union Ministry of Environment and Forests have so far issued threeNotifications declaring Dahanu Taluka, Mahableshwar-Panchgani and Matheran all inMaharashtra as Eco-Sensitive Zones under the Environment (Protection) Act,1986. The State Government of Maharashtra have informed the Central Government that no effecton Inland Tourism activity has been reported.

(c): The State Government of Maharashtra informed that there has been no protest on record from any agency.

(d): The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that a Zonal Master Plan forEco-Sensitive Zones which includes a Tourism Master Plan as well, is under preparation for developing Inland Tourism in the notified areas.